



Second A²Zero Survey Results

Month 2: 1/8/20 – 2/5/20

One-Page Summary (1,017 responses)

These are the highlights and key takeaways from the second A²Zero survey.

Demographic Info of Responders

- **Race:** 71.3% white; 1.4% black; 1.5% Hispanic; less than 4% for all other.
- **Gender:** 44% women; 38% men; 1.2% transgender or non-binary.
- **Income:** Range from <\$25,999 to >\$200,000; Median income is \$75,000-\$99,999; 72% make more than \$50,000/year.
- **Age:** No one under 15; 30 individuals between 15-19; median age is 40-59 years old.
- **Residence:** 93% of respondents live or work in Ann Arbor; 17% are students.
- **Rent/own status:** 66.4% own; 22.3% rent; 11.2% other or prefer not to say.

Answers to Categorical Questions

- **Energy:** The top five actions supported by the public to reduce emissions associated with stationary electricity and natural gas were:
 - Work with the state and utilities to power the electric grid with renewable energy (74%)
 - Install solar on as many buildings as possible (70%)
 - Create programs for landlords that encourage energy efficiency in rented residences (69%)
 - Provide incentives for carbon neutral buildings (either new or renovated buildings) (67%)
 - Work with state to allow the City to negotiate renewable energy for the whole community at a significantly discounted rate (i.e., community choice aggregation) (62%)
- **Mobility:** The top five actions supported by the public to reduce emissions associated with transportation were:
 - Increase mixed-use zoning, allowing amenities such as grocery stores, coffee shops, and restaurants to be developed in neighborhoods (68%)
 - Electric buses (schools & AAATA), City fleet, and U-M vehicles (62%)
 - Expanded public transit service lines and hours (58%)
 - Free public transit (54%)
 - More park and rides connected to public transit to get people to their destinations in town without having to drive (53%)
- **Resource Reduction:** The top five actions supported by the public to reduce emissions associated with waste and consumption were:
 - Create or nurture existing local markets for material reuse (i.e. food, packaging, bags, and construction debris) (62%)
 - Scale up local food production and support farmer's markets to improve access to local and sustainable food (61%)
 - Incentivize, charge for, or ban single-use plastics throughout the City (61%)
 - Move to year-round City composting collection (60%)
 - Require composting and recycling at local businesses (53%)
- **Adaptation:** The top five actions supported by the public to increase resilience to climate change were:

- Plant more trees to help mitigate heat (including nut and fruit trees), manage stormwater, and sequester carbon (78%)
- Preserve natural areas for purposes such as stormwater infiltration, source water protection, and heat mitigation (among other benefits) (69%)
- Redevelop vacant spaces to have housing, community centers, and green space (55%)
- Update design standards for roads so they support alternative transit, slowing down traffic, stormwater infiltration, more trees, and greater walk and bikability (54%)
- Power all emergency services (i.e., fire, police, EMS) with renewable energy and batteries to ensure they can operate if the electric grid is disrupted (50%)
- Equity: The top two actions supported by the public to advance our work towards an equitable and carbon neutral future were:
 - Allowing more accessory dwelling units and tiny houses in residential neighborhoods (57%)
 - Developing a green jobs training program to build local capacity to implement many of the solutions needed to achieve carbon neutrality (55%)
- Funding: The top two funding mechanisms supported by the public to achieve community wide carbon neutrality were:
 - Philanthropic dollars (62%)
 - Carbon neutrality millage (44%)
- The median willingness to pay for carbon neutrality efforts was \$10/month

Common Themes from Comments (>10 responses)

Energy

- Would like all renewable options to be considered, different sizes of projects, and for renewable energy installations to be incentivized (43)
- Do not think climate change is a threat, that Ann Arbor's impact to climate change is insignificant, that addressing climate change is not a priority, or would not like to see these actions take place (41)
- Do not want to see taxes increase, or would like to see spending reallocated (21)
- Interested in alternatives in how Ann Arbor receives its electricity (20)
- Have concerns about heat pump efficiency and whether electric heating is less carbon intense than natural gas (18)
- Would like to see incentives for energy efficiency improvements, require efficient operations of commercial buildings, and to work with the University (15)
- Would like to see more dense and affordable housing so that those who work in Ann Arbor can afford to live in Ann Arbor (13)
- Would like to see plant-based diets encouraged or incentivized (12)

Mobility

- Improving mobility is not a priority, or would not like to see any of these actions take place (33)
- Would like to see bus rapid transit or more reliable, frequent, and expanded bus service, more park and rides, and buses right-sized for off-peak times (30)
- Would like to see improved traffic flow, less and enforced idling, and bikes and pedestrians accommodated in street designs (24)
- Would like to see commuters' needs addressed with regional transit, or the existing train station be improved (20)
- Would like to see more, denser housing offered that those who work in Ann Arbor can afford, accommodate those community, and incorporate trees (17)
- Would like to see walkable basic goods and services, including local businesses, within neighborhoods (17)

- Have concerns that the proposed actions are too expensive, and do not want to see their taxes increase (16)
- Have concerns about the environmental impacts of batteries in electric cars, and the carbon intensity of charging electric vehicles with the current grid (15)
- Would like to see increased parking rates, a fee for driving in the city, or gasoline taxes (13)
- Would like to see car-free or bus-only times, days, or zones (13)
- Would like to see safer biking options, covered bike parking, subsidized bikes, and more connectivity to other modes of transportation (11)

Resource Reduction

- Would like to see improved recycling services including free drop-offs/pickups of special recyclables, local recycling, mandatory business recycling, or requiring recyclables be sorted (33)
- Reducing greenhouse gases from consumption and waste is not a priority, or would not like to see any of the proposed actions take place (26)
- Would like to see improved composting services including continued, less frequent pickup in winter months, better composting for multi-family buildings and business, and education (22)
- Would like to see more education on composting and recycling best practices (20)
- Would like to see single use plastics reduced (16)
- Would like to see gardening and native plants encouraged (11)
- Would like to see an increase in local food production and access to it (10)

Adaptation

- Would like to see more trees planted, and trees that are best suited for their environment (27)
- Would like to see incentives for taking action, including rain gardens, tree planting, or eating a plant-based diet (26)
- Adapting to climate change is not a priority or would not like to see any of these actions take place (25)
- Would like to see vacancies redeveloped (12)
- Would like to see a requirement for white roofs (12)
- Would like to see more education on climate awareness, emergency preparedness, or environmental sustainability (11)
- Would like to see more natural area preservation, including turning vacant lots to greenspace (11)